



TALLIS 2014 2015

Newsletter

Week 23 – 6 March 2015

CALENDAR:

9 March – 13 March 2015

Week B

Monday 9 March

- Year 8 Trip to Imperial War Museum
- Year 7 Trip to the National Gallery
- Year 12 Trip to the National Theatre

Tuesday 10 March

- AM Reg - Year 12 Assembly
- PM Reg - Year 13 Assembly
- Year 7 and 8 watching Shakespeare Live
- Year 7 Trip London Wetland Centre

Wednesday 11 March

- AM Reg - Year 9 Assembly
- PM Reg - Year 7 Assembly
- Michael Bochmann Concert
- Year 9 Engineering Day
- Year 13 A2 American Politics Conference

Thursday 12 March

- AM Reg - Year 10 Assembly

Friday 13 March

- AM Reg - Year 9 Assembly
- PM Reg - Year 7 Assembly
- Math's Feast

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your support over another week, especially the magnificent 84% who came to Year 8 Parents' Evening. Your presence and partnership is much appreciated.

I hope that lots of you are keen to come to the Wine, Cheese and Chocolate evening on the Friday 20 March. It will be a thoroughly educational experience, I promise you!

Our next Parents Forum meeting is on Monday 23 March, when the topic to start us off will be Revision and Exams.

That is the same day as we interview external applicants for Year 12 in September. As we have about 800 to do, I am afraid that we will need to close early in order to have sufficient staff to get through the applicants. Therefore, students in Years 7-10 will be sent home at lunchtime on Monday 23 March, at 1.10 pm. Year 11 will remain for Period 5 and will leave school as normal at 3.10 pm.

Some of you will know that Tallis is famous in Germany, as the school featured in the English language textbooks published by Klett. You might be amused to know that I have been invited to Germany (Leipzig and Duisburg, to be precise) to talk to English teachers about us!

That's at the end of next week, so I won't be in school on Thursday and Friday.

Carolyn Roberts, Headteacher



facebook.com/creativetallis
twitter.com/creativetallis
flickr.com/photos/tallisphot

Year 13 Trip to Berlin

How many historians can you fit in an ex-Stasi prison cell?

All 16 of them plus the 3 teachers as it turned out...although there was no room to sleep or sit down! The Year 13 Historians departed from Gatwick South on the 12 February to touchdown in a very chilly Berlin. What followed over the next four days was a series of visits that not only educated them about the horrors of the Holocaust and Nazi Terror, but about the deep level of suspicion during the Cold War and Post 45 division of Germany! A fantastic time was had by all with many German foods sampled.

Best moment of the visit was being shown round a nuclear bunker deep under the streets of Berlin and the young tour guide asking, "Are you the same Thomas Tallis School featured in our English textbooks? The students very proudly stated, "Yes we are!" The tour guide replied, I learned English from your school". Cue big proud smiles all round!

Thank you to the students and staff involved for a thoroughly enjoyable visit.



Heather Odd, Head of Year 12



Debate Success!

On Tuesday 3 March, Thomas Tallis hosted the second round of the Urban Debate League. We had two teams from Years 8 and 9 competing, made up of both experienced and novice team members. Both teams were up against tough competition in the first debate, and narrowly missed out on victory. However, the tables turned in the second, spontaneous, debate and both teams secured a win! Congratulations to all who competed - stay tuned for the Urban Debate League table, when we will find out if our teams have got through to the final!

Thomas Tallis A

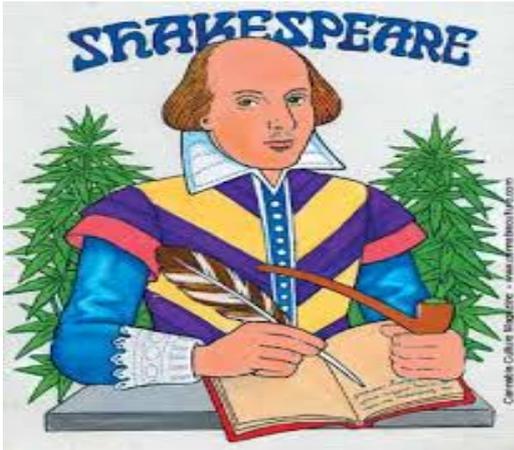
Sam Steele (8AI),
Michaela Owusu-Afriyie (8ZJ),
Kwesi Ameyaw (9TM) and
Jacques Holford (9GO)

Thomas Tallis B

Rebecca Omojafo (8DE),
Rojin Budak (8ZJ),
Adem Kilic (8EH)
Ahmed Mohamed (8TW)

**The club will re-commence next Thursday,
3.30 in 2128.**

Lizzie Church and Michelle Springer



Next Tuesday, Year 7 and 8 will be treated to a performance from a professional theatre company, who will be performing snippets from a selection of well-known Shakespeare plays. The performance will take place during school hours in the main hall, and will complement the work both years have been doing during this term on the Bard and his works.

Periods 1 and 2: Year 7
Periods 3 and 4: Year 8

Elizabeth Church, English

Linda Newbery - Author

In celebration of World Book Day we were very lucky to secure an award winning author, Linda Newbery, to speak to our Year 7 students on Friday 6 March. The students were captivated and asked some very interesting questions. Many queued up to buy a copy of her books and have them personally dedicated and signed. Thank you to all the staff who helped out with the students on the day and particularly to Lizzie Church and Richard Shields for all their help and support in making this a successful event. Thanks also to Andrew South and Christian Yotha-Tchoumi and Mickael Brunoir.



The Library

Theatre of Wine on behalf of Thomas Tallis PTFA presents An evening of wine tasting on Friday 20 March 2015

Tickets £15.00 per person available from Thomas Tallis School (cheques payable to 'Thomas Tallis School')

Tickets will be sent via students



2+3=10	2+3=10	2+3=10
8+4=96	8+4=96	8+4=96
7+2=63	7+2=63	7+2=63
6+5=66	6+5=66	6+5=66
9+5=???	9+5=???	9+5=???

Maths Feast

Next Friday 13 March, we will be hosting an inter-school maths quiz. There will be teams coming from eight other schools to compete against our best Year 10 mathematicians. They include:

- Daniel Smythe (10DM)
- Adnan Reci (10DM)
- Natalie Smith (10JK)
- Emily Warner (10AR)
- Yuan Hoang (10AK)
- Bryn Holder (10SK)
- Kai Winter (10AK)
- Reeya Lohani (10LS)

Reserves

- Ayush Bhandari (10SK)
- Hannah Mills (10DM)

Royal Greenwich Teaching School Alliance

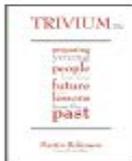


Research and Development Seminar

Wednesday 11th March 2015
Thomas Tallis School

Guest Speaker:

**Martin
Robinson**



Author of **Trivium 21C:
Preparing young
people for the future
with lessons from the
past**

Please join us for our inaugural Research and Development Seminar, the first in a series of regular, termly events.

We are delighted to announce that we will be joined by the acclaimed author, teacher and educationalist Martin Robinson. <http://www.martinrobinson.net>



The seminar is free of charge and will be held at:

Thomas Tallis School, Kidbrooke Park Road, London, SE3 9PX
Wednesday 11th March 2015
5.00pm - 7.00pm

To reserve a place please contact Sara Courtney at Willow Dene School
0208 854 9841 or scourtney@willowdene.greenwich.sch.uk

On Wednesday 11 March, the inaugural Royal Greenwich Teaching School Alliance Research and Development seminar will be taking place here at Tallis, and will be led by Martin Robinson, a teacher for 20 years, now a writer and consultant with an interest in how the liberal arts should influence education. Martin will be drawing from his critically acclaimed book, *Trivium 21C: preparing young people for the future with lessons from the past*, in which he explores whether a contemporary trivium (Grammar, Dialectic and Rhetoric) could unite institutions, teachers, politicians and parents in the common pursuit of providing a great education for our children in the 21st Century. The seminar will take place from 5 – 7 pm, is free of charge, and will include refreshments. All are welcome – please do come along.

Jon Curtis-Brignell, Assistant Head

Parent Governor - Tim Warner

Tim Warner first became a parent governor at Thomas Tallis in September 2010 and changed to a Local Authority Governor in September 2014. He has been Chair of Governors since April 2011. Tim has two children currently at Thomas Tallis, a son in Year 13 and a daughter in Year 10. His eldest son left Thomas Tallis two years ago and is now studying physics at university. He also has another son who is in Year 11 at a school for students with severe learning difficulties, where Tim is also a member of the governing body. As he was previously a governor at his children's primary school, Tim has over 10 year's experience as a school governor.

As well as being the current chair of governors at Thomas Tallis he has been a vice-chair, chair of premises and resource committees, and the link governor for safeguarding and special educational needs, among other governor roles. In his work life, Tim is a biomedical research scientist and professor at Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry where he is also the Deputy Dean, with particular responsibility for postgraduate research students.



Tim's term as chair of governors at Thomas Tallis has been a time of rapid change for the school. We have moved buildings, changed headteacher, restricted our budget and undergone an Ofsted inspection. More importantly the school has continued to develop its creative ethos and to grow its inclusive and accepting environment.

Our students are doing better than ever and the school is heavily oversubscribed. Tim is strongly committed to the school growing still further in these directions and to Thomas Tallis remaining a genuine community school.

Dance Festival

Sue Whiting our PE Primary Schools Liaison Coordinator and Josh Kelly organised a dance festival for primary schools in cluster. Classes from Year 1 to Year 6 took part. Eltham C of E, Thorntree, James Wolfe, Holy Family, Brooklands, Gordon, St Mary Magdalene (2 classes), Cherry Orchard, St Fidelis in Bexley, Ealdham (2 classes) and Discovery took part. In the morning they rehearsed their dances and then performed to each other.

In the afternoon they performed to the whole of Year 7. To inspire the primary children and Year 7 further, Thomas Tallis junior dance and BTEC students also performed their high quality dance work. A fantastic day was had by all, with over 400 primary children having the opportunity to perform their dance work at Thomas Tallis.



Sue Whiting, PE Primary Schools Liaison Coordinator

Up and Coming Events

Primary Cricket

Sue Whiting has held the borough cricket tournaments each week for Year 5 and 6 girls only and Year 5 and 6 mixed. The winners from each of these weekly events will take part in the Borough finals next week on Thursday 12 March at Thomas Tallis. The girls' tournament in the morning and the mixed in the afternoon. The winners of the mixed will represent the Borough at Lords on 26 March.

Gymnastics Skills

Sue Whiting is running gymnastics skills and key steps gymnastics training insets for the cluster of schools. Next week- staff and students from Charlton Manor, Thorntree, Gordon, St Thomas More and Cherry Orchard are taking part.

Gymnastics Competition

On Thursday March 26, Sue Whiting will be hosting the Greenwich Schools gymnastics competition for Years 3 and 4 (Key Steps 2 competition) and Years 5 and 6 (Key Steps 3 competition). The competition will be judged by our year 10 Sports Leaders (Ms Galvin's group)

Roller Blading

Taster sessions of roller blading started last September for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. These will be continuing for the rest of this term and in the summer term.

Judo Sessions

Sue Whiting and Gary Wells have been running Judo taster sessions on Thursdays throughout the term for years 2,3,4,5 and 6 students in the cluster have proved very successful this term. These will continue next term and are proving to be a fantastic school-club link.

Health Walk Leaders Training Course

Sue Whiting is organising a Health Walk Leaders training course on 16 April. Please contact her if you are interested in becoming a walk leader as we hope to develop social walks from the school in the near future for family and friends.

**Sue Whiting, PE Primary Schools Liaison
Coordinator**

Year 8 Trip to the Imperial War Museum

During the first half of the spring term all Year 8 tutor groups visited the Imperial War Museum for a special study day regarding the First World War. The day was organized into two parts. Firstly, student collaborated in the newly curated First World War Gallery to investigate and inquire on the causes of the war, life in the trenches, the battle of the Somme, life on the Home Front and the Impact of the War.

Secondly students used their imagination and persistence to enquire into personal narratives through object and evidence handling sessions coordinated by the Museum Education department. The History Department would like to thank Year 8 students in particular and all the staff who accompanied the trips to make them such a success. Oh.....and if your family has a First World War story to tell, be sure to let the Tallis History department know!

Tony Hier, Humanities



Thomas Tallis, Parents, Teachers and Friends Association are always seeking new recruits. Any amount of support is welcome. Please contact us if you would like to get involved and help build a stronger community.

Lisa Sproat lsproat@thomasrallis.org.uk

